

Statement of Chief Justice Chase T. Rogers

Justice Peter T. Zarella

I will miss Justice Peter T. Zarella as a colleague, a scholar and a judge wholly committed to the rule of law.

Whether it was in Rockville, where he served as a Superior Court judge, at the Appellate Court or on the Supreme Court, Justice Zarella's judicial philosophy is simple: he follows the law of the state of Connecticut and the constitutions of the United States and Connecticut. A voracious learner, Justice Zarella's meticulous research skills are evident in all of his opinions. At the same time, he rightly views every case as different and of great importance to the parties involved.

Justice Zarella is especially instrumental in his current role as the Administrative Judge of the Appellate System, where he has led the successful effort to implement e-filing for the Supreme and Appellate Courts. He also is a very effective ambassador in educating people about the courts and specifically, the role of the appellate courts. He is active with the Judicial Branch's Speakers Bureau and also was the founder of the Supreme Court Historical Society. Moreover, he refashioned the Attorney Swearing-In ceremonies, so that they are more meaningful to new attorneys and their families. These are but a small sampling of the activities he has been involved with over his 20-year judicial career.

On a personal note, I consider Justice Zarella a true friend and will miss our spirited discussions regarding the law.

I wish Justice Zarella nothing but the best as he begins this new journey.